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C. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims in accordance with the following complete listing of all claims in the application:

Claim 1-26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (currently amended): A process for making an emulsified drilling fluid containing emulsified oil or bitumen from oil sand cuttings, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a primary drilling fluid comprising an aqueous liquid, a viscosity agent, and one or more surfactants having HLB numbers equal to or greater than approximately 7 but not exceeding approximately 13; and
- (b) mixing the primary drilling fluid with cuttings produced by drilling through oil sand formations containing oil or bitumen;

wherein said surfactants are effective to emulsify the oil or bitumen from the cuttings, and the emulsified oil or bitumen becomes substantially uniformly dispersed within the primary drilling fluid, thereby forming the emulsified drilling fluid.

Claim 28 (original): The process of Claim 27, wherein the step of mixing the primary drilling fluid with cuttings is accomplished by circulating the primary drilling fluid through the annular space of the wellbore of a well being drilled through an oil sand formation, such that cuttings from the oil sand formation become mixed into the primary drilling fluid.

Claim 29 (original): The process of Claim 27, wherein the primary drilling fluid includes one or more polymers.

Claim 30 (original): The process of Claim 27, wherein the primary drilling fluid includes one or more alkaline materials.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The process of Claim 27, wherein the primary drilling fluid includes a carrier oil having solvent properties.

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Claim 32 (original): The process of Claim 27, wherein the primary drilling fluid includes one or more weighting materials.

Claim 33 (original): The process of Claim 27, wherein the primary drilling fluid includes one or more defoaming agents.

Claims 34-40 (cancelled)

Claim 41 (new): The process of Claim 27, wherein the one or more surfactants having HLB numbers equal to or greater than approximately 7 but not exceeding approximately 12 are selected from the group consisting of carboxylate salts, sulfonides, sulphates, phosphates, polyethoxylate ether, alkylphenol ethoxylates, alcohol ethoxylates, fatty acid ethoxylates, ethoxylated alkanolamide, alkyl ether phosphate, alkyl benzene sulfonates, ethoxylated fatty acids, castor oil ethoxylates, glycerol esters, ethylene oxide propylene oxide-block copolymers, nonylphenoxypoly (ethyleneoxy) ethanol, imidazolines, betaines, propionates, and amphotoacetates.

Upon entry of the present amendments, the claims pending in the application will be **Claims 27-33 and 41.**